**Fish Iowa! Unit**

**Day 1**

**Teaching Objective**
Students will be able to identify different species of game fish found in Iowa waters.

**Reference Materials**
Iowa fish ID guide-1/student
Fish group identification poster set (8)
*Fish Iowa! Unit #2* (pages 26-33)

**Description of Activities**
Classroom activity is to be able to identify our game fish in Iowa and then more specifically fish that we might catch at the local quarry.

Have our local DNR fisheries Brian Hayes come in and speak about the different species we might catch at the quarry.

Inquire as to how many have been fishing before, did they identify what they were catching. Possibly start the *Fish Iowa!* card game.

**Day 2**

**Teaching Objective**
Students will be able to identify aquatic habitats of fish and why clean water is important.

**Reference Materials**
*Fish Iowa!* pages 4-6
We have soil clay in the 6th grade in the spring—we talk about conservatory practices. Team teach this with Mrs. Dussenbury.

**Description of Activities**
Talk about where fish can be found
-Habitat areas, ponds, lakes, rivers
-what type of structure or hazards we might encounter
-what type of habitat are we going to find at the quarry
-why is water quality important and
-what we can do to help

If the computer lab is available use the Biodiversity CD.

Possibly bring back a sample of quarry water where we plan to find a fish, and test this in the science classroom.

**Day 3**

**Teaching objective**
Students will be able to use the correct terminology to identify a basic spin casting rod, reel and tackle.
Students will be able to tie a basic fishing knot and execute a basic cast.

**Materials Needed**
eye bolts mounted to 2x4’s
length of rope precut 72”
fishing poles
practice plugs
Contact Mr. Barnes
Reference *Fish Iowa!* page 43
**Description of Activities**
Cover parts of a spin cast rod & reel.
Inspect reels and rods.
Restring – walk out line and rewind.
Next we will practice tying first a clinch knot using our rope and eye bolts – after successfully completing the clinch knot we will practice the Palomar knot.
Have students tie practice plugs on their poles.
Mr. Barnes will demonstrate the perfect pendulum cast.
Students will practice casting access the gym or outside weather permitting.
After all students have learned to cast we will use hula hoops for practice targets in the gym. If we can go outside we will try casting for distance.

**Day 4**
**Teaching objective**
Review Day 1 fish identification
Review Day 2 fish habitat where we will be fishing and what fish we may catch.

Students will become familiar Iowa fish regulation – we will discuss the current rules and regulation.

**Materials Needed**
Fish identification poster
Current fishing regulations
Fish hooks, sinkers, floats

**Description of Activities**
After review – We will prepare our poles. Students will tie on hook and set split shot and place on floats.

**Day 5**
**Teaching objective**
Lets fish.
Students will be able to bait their hook and then cast out successfully.
Always good to remind the fish to cooperate.

**Materials Needed**
1- pole complete for each student
1- small tackle box to include floats, sinkers, hooks, clipper (1 for each 12 students)
2 dozen worms per group of 12 students.
1 adult with hook, pliers, & first aid kit per 12 students
1 emergency whistle per adult.

**Description of Activities**
The quarry will be our classroom.
Students will get to actually practicing their fishing skills and hopefully identify their catch.